[Translation]

Introduction of Rajdhani Express on Delhi-Ahmedabad Route

1525. SHRI B.K. GADHVI :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Rajdhani Express on Delhi-Ahmedabad route via Jaipur-Ajmer-Palanpur; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said train is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to introduce a weekly New Delhi-Ahmedabad Swarnajayanti Rajdhani Express via Jaipur-Ajmer during August'97.

Out of Turn Telephones to Employees

1526. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of out of turn telephone connections provided to departmental employees working in the office of District Manager Telephone, Bareilly during the last one year till 1.6.1997;

(b) whether district level officers are competent for providing out of turn telephone connections to employees; and

(c) if so, the limit thereof and the procedure followed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, no out of turn telephone connection has been provided to departmental employees working in the office of District Manager Telephones, Bareilly during the last one year till 01.06.1997.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

Nala Cleaning Works by Railways in Mumbai

1527. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite payment by the Mumbai Municipal Corporation, the Central Railway authorities failed to carry out the nala-cleaning works as per schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to ensure smooth railway services even during high tide period during current monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Following Mumbai Municipal Corporation's payment for the nallah-cleaning work (de-silting) within the protion of Central Railway, the Railway had awarded contract for the work on 01.04.97. As per the Agreement, Mumbai Municipal Corporation was to clean the upstream and downstream portions of the nallahs. However, the Corporation could finalise tenders for the work within their portion only in the middle of May, 1997. This delayed the schedule for cleaning of nallahs. However, the cleaning work has been carried out effectively thereafter except for the 3 nos, nallahs, viz., (i) Mukhopadhyay Nagar nallah at Km. 12/5-6; (ii) Santoshimata Nagar nallah at Km.23/10-11 and Km. 24/2; and (iii) Culvert at Km. 18/6-7, downstream portions of which are required to be modified suitably by the Municipal Authority as per the BRIMSTOWAD REPORT.

(c) Regular de-silting is being done to ensure free flow through the nallahs. Mumbai Municipal Corporation is being pursued constantly for carrying out the necessary modifications of the nallahs at the above-mentioned three locations tavoid flooding of the railway tracks, particularly across the Mukhopadhyay Nagar nallah at Km. 12/5-6.

Upgradation of Chandlodia Railway Station

1528. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the Chandlodia railway station in Gujrat in view of fast development of area viz. New High Court and other important institution near the station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to provide necessary amenities at the railway station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) Chandlodia railway station situated about 5 KMs away from the New High Court of Gujarat is provided with amenities commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic. There is no proposal at present for further development of the station.

[Translation]

Post Offices in the Country

1529. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the numbe of post offices and the number of employees working in the country, State-wise;